

Tonnur Tank as Tourist Centre

***Q.—695. Sri N. A. CHANNE GOWDA (Pandavapura).—**

Will the Minister for Transport and Tourism be pleased to state :—

(a) whether there is any proposal of making the famous historic Tonnur Tank as tourist centre ;

(b) the action taken by them to keep the said tank clean ?

A.—Sri MOHAMED ALI (Minister for Transport and Tourism).—

(a) No.

(b) The tank is maintained by Public Works Department in a fit condition to serve the atchkat under it. The Fisheries Department has been addressed by that Department not to issue licences for fishing in this tank, as fishing will make the water foul and unsuitable for drinking purpose.

Sri N. A. CHANNE GOWDA.—What are the general conditions, qualifications and circumstances under which a place is made a tourist centre ?

Sri MOHAMED ALI.—One of the important conditions is tourists traffic to the place.

Sri N. A. CHANNE GOWDA.—Has it come to the notice of the Government that Tonnur Tank is a place of Hindu pilgrims ?

Sri MOHAMED ALI.—Yes, Tonnur is of historical importance. But there are many more places in the Mysore State which offer a wealth of attraction both for foreign and home tourists. The scope is restricted on account of non-availability of accommodation Transport and other facilities.

Sri N. A. CHANNE GOWDA.—Has it come to the notice of the Government that Tonnur Tank and Moti Talav built by Tippu commands scenic beauty and attracts tourists from all over India ?

Sri MOHAMAD ALI.—I have told just now that there are many places. So far as Tonnur is concerned, except for its historic importance it does not have that scenic beauty to attract tourists.

Sri V. N. PATIL.—Has it come to the notice of the Government that in Bidar District there are places of importance like Tombs of Bahamani kings and other ruins ?

Sri MOHAMAD ALI.—I do not understand how this supplementary question arises out of this question.